

**ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS DAYS**  
**MARCH 21 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2003**

**LIST OF ACTIVITIES**

**Earth Wellness Festival: March 21**

The Earth Wellness Festival kicks off Environmental Awareness Days for Lincoln and Lancaster County. This is the ninth annual Festival, which provides fifth-grade students in Lancaster County with hands-on educational activities. Local environmental groups and the University of Nebraska sponsor this environmental education program at Southeast Community College in Lincoln. Since it began in 1994, the Festival has reached about 23,000 young people. For more information on the event contact the Lancaster County Extension Service at 441-7180.

**Yard Waste Composting Program: April 1 through November 30**

Between April 1 and November 30 of each year, residents must separate their grass clippings and leaves from their household trash. A separate yard waste collection is available from local waste haulers for a fee. Many save money by composting or mulching yard waste on their own property. For information on composting workshops, call the City Recycling Office at 441-8215.

**Great American Cleanup: April - May**

The Great American Cleanup is the nation's largest organized annual cleanup, beautification and community improvement program. It is sponsored nationally by Keep America Beautiful and locally by Keep Lincoln and Lancaster County Beautiful. Millions of volunteers nationwide take part annually in this program to help clean up litter and improve their communities. To participate in helping improve our community, you can get involved in several ways:

- Many neighborhood groups sponsor spring clean-ups. To find out if your neighborhood group is involved, contact Keep Lincoln and Lancaster County Beautiful at 441-8035.
- Clean-up mini-grants are offered to groups, organizations, clubs and families to clean up litter on public land areas. These can include roadsides, lake shorelines, dam faces and other public land areas. Mini-grants range from \$25 to \$100, depending on the size of the project and other factors. For an application and more details, contact Keep Lincoln and Lancaster County Beautiful at 441-8035
- Keep Wilderness Park Beautiful is a clean up of Lincoln's wildest park from 9 a.m. to noon, April 19. Join Pioneer Park Nature Center staff in picking up litter along trails and roads. Participants will meet at the park entrance at 1st Street and Park Boulevard. Free pizza and pop will be provided for those who pre-register before April 17. More information is available from the Nature Center at 441-7895.

**Cans for Books Campaign: April 1 through 30**

During this time, area schools will receive five cents per pound for aluminum cans brought to A & J Recycling, 3400 North 22nd Street, and A-Can Recycling, 3255 South 10th Street. The can collection is being sponsored by the two recyclers along with

Midland Recycling, Lee Booksellers, the Ventures in Partnership program and the Lincoln Public Schools Recycling and Media programs. Those dropping off cans can designate which school library will receive their donations. The school and individual bringing in the most aluminum cans will win cash prizes from Midland Recycling. For more information, call Midland Recycling at 476-8502.

**Electronics Recycling for Businesses Only: April 11**

Businesses can bring all used electronic equipment including monitors, CPUs, faxes, printers, and all other peripheral equipment to State Fair Park from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. WasteCap of Lincoln will recycle the equipment. Collection of the first complete computer system is free. After that, the collection fee is \$7 per monitor and 25 cents per pound for other equipment. Call 472-0888 for more information.

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection: April 12**

The collection is set for 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, 4021 North 56th Street. Local residents can dispose of household hazardous waste, such as heavy metals, solvents, pesticides and items containing PCBs. Materials NOT accepted are latex paint, fertilizers, antifreeze, medicines, used oil, batteries, explosives and ammunition or household trash. Do not mix chemicals, and keep products in their original containers. Call 441-8040 for more information.

**Spring Affair: April 26**

This annual event is sponsored by the State Fair Park, the Nebraska State-wide Arboretum, and UNL Landscape Services. Activities from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Food Court Building include a native and exotic plant sale, seminars on gardening, a variety of outdoor vendors and tips on gardening. For more information, call UNL Landscape Services at 472-2679.

**33rd Annual Earth Day: April 19-20**

On April 19 and 20 people can participate in a free "Earth Day Everyday" hike at the Pioneer Park Nature Center. The hikes begin at 2 p.m. each day and will be guided by a naturalist.

**Clean Your Files Week: April 21 through 25**

If your file cabinets at work are bulging or you have boxes and boxes of old files, "Clean Your Files Week" is for you. This is the third annual observance in Lincoln. The event supports Earth Day by offering office workers the opportunity to empty file drawers and fill recycling bins. Recyclables include computer paper, letterhead, white and colored ledger paper, phone books, cards and envelopes. For more information on "Clean Your Files Week," call the Lincoln Recycling Office at 441-8215.

**Lincoln Lancaster Environmental Awards Dinner: April 22**

This annual event is sponsored by the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department and the City Public Works and Utilities Department to recognize organizations, schools, businesses and individuals for their environmental efforts. The awards dinner and ceremony begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Cornhusker Hotel, and the cost is \$15 per person. For information or a reservation, call 441-8035.

**Arbor Day: April 25**

Many activities are planned statewide for this observance, which was created by Nebraskan J. Sterling Morton (1832-1902).

**To learn more about Environmental Awareness Days,  
call the Lincoln Recycling Office at 441-8215.**